

## ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

2, sub 5 The present invention provides an integrated video camera system for capturing a plurality video images of a plurality of elements included in a videographic survey, each element having a unique identifying name associated with it. The camera system includes a digital data processor for executing program steps and a memory module in communication with the digital data processor for storing the program steps and for storing digital data fields relating to each of the plurality of elements. The memory module includes a separate data field for storing each of the identifying names of the plurality of elements. A plurality of barcodes, is associated with the plurality of elements, one barcode being associated with each of the plurality of elements. Each of the plurality of barcodes comprising a bar pattern representative of the identifying name of the element associated with the barcode.

10 15 A barcode scanner, in communication with the digital data processor, generates an electrical signal in response to scanning the one of the barcodes. The electrical signal is interpreted by the digital data processor to associate the identifying name of the element read from the barcode with appropriate data fields provided on the memory module for storing a video image of the element or other data associated with capturing a video image of the element.

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The present invention provides a system and method for capturing video images of elements in a videographic survey, e.g. a thermograph video survey. According to the invention a barcode label having a bar pattern representing a unique identifying name of each element of the survey is associated with each survey element. A video camera system, with a barcode scanner associated therewith, is provided for scanning a barcode associated with a selected element. The selected element is thereby identified to the video camera system. The video camera system recalls data, including the element name, relating to the selected element and displays the data on a display device associated with the video camera system. An operator may review the displayed data and capture a video image of the element with the video camera system. The video image of the selected element may then be stored in a camera memory with the element name associated therewith. In another aspect of the invention, a base computer is provided, with a database program operating thereon, for organizing data fields, including an identifying name field, associated with each element of a survey. Data may be transferred between the video camera system and the base computer for organizing a videographic survey and for analyzing video images of the survey elements.